

BIRMINGHAM- Congressman and Mrs. Spencer Bachus were happy to select Austin Kennedy as the cover artist for the 2004 Holiday Card Call for Art.

Each year the UAB School of Optometry Vision Science Research Center sponsors the Holiday Call for Art to provide a creative outlet for talented students with visual impairments.

In 1993, Congressman and Mrs. Bachus began using original art by students in their holiday card to highlight the talent of local children with disabilities.

Austin Kennedy is a first grade student at Paine Primary School in the Jefferson County School System. Austin lives in Trussville, Alabama with his parents Terry and Margaret Kennedy.

*Austin's Red Truck*

, a design of tempera paint, Wikki Stix, glue, Alabama sand, dyed green rice, and artificial snow was created by Austin with the help of his art teacher, Erin Adrian.

"Every year it is a blessing for us to be a part of the entire event. We feel it is a privilege for us to be able to honor these children at the Christmas card party. The y are loving and precious children with unique gifts, which captures the spirit of Christmas," said Mrs. Bachus.

Congressman and Mrs. Bachus, Dr. John Amos, and the UAB School of Optometry Vision Science Research Center staff honored all students participating in the 2004 Holiday Call for Art earlier today in a ceremony at the North Shelby County Library.

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